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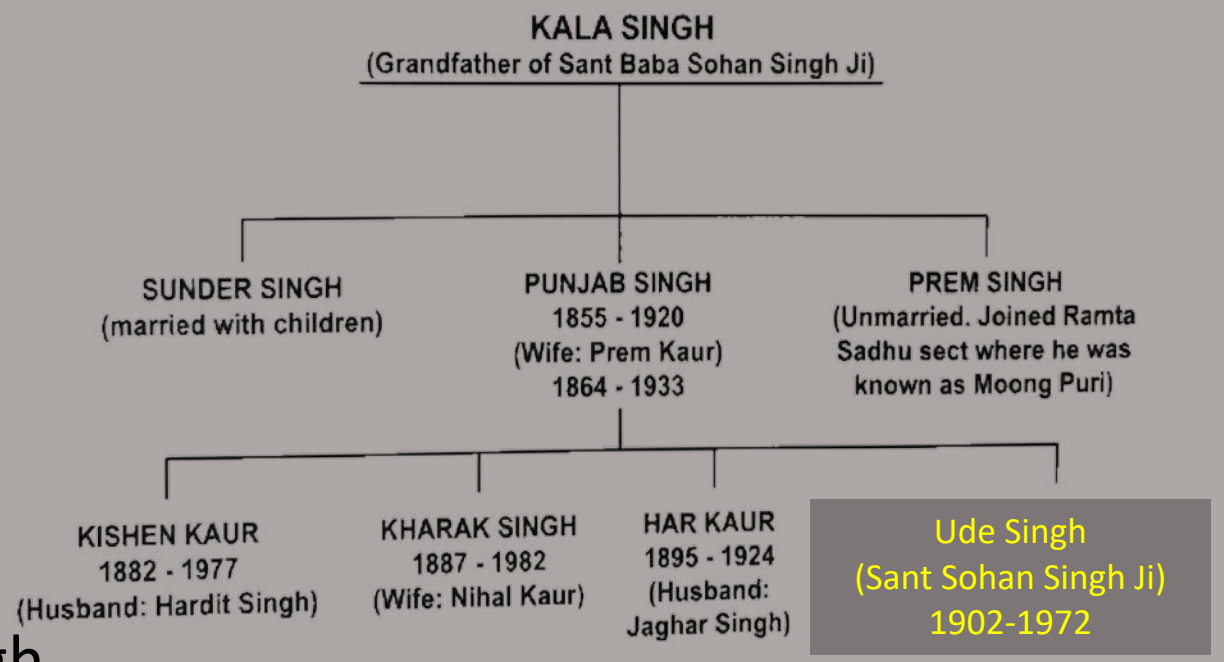
Birth

- Name at Birth : Ude Singh later known as Sohan Singh)
- Place of Birth : Phool (Mehraj) in the former State of Patiala
- Grandfather : Kala Singh
- Father : Punjab Singh
- Mother :Prem Kaur
- Birth Year : 1902
- Siblings : Kishen Kaur, (1882), Kharak Singh (1887) & Har Kaur (1895)
- Being the youngest he became the pet of the family who lovingly called him “Sohna Kaka (Handsome Boy) and Kaka.



Punjab Singh

- Born in 1855.
- Early education : Village School at Phool
- Joined British Army & was assigned to Burma (now Myanmar)
- In Burma he met Baba Ram Singh Ji Namdhari who was in exile after driving a strong movement against British Raj.
- He was promoted to Jamadar (Sergeant-Major)
- Retired in circa of 1880 and returned to Phool.
- Joined Nabha State Government
- Married Prem Kaur in 1881

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Migration to Village Chathewala

- During the great epidemic of influenza in 1909 the family migrated to the village of Chathewal, near Talwandi Sabo (Damdama Sahib).
- This move had great influence on the development of young Sohan Singh.
- Under the influence of Sant Hari Singh, he became an Akhand-pathi and acquired some knowledge of Gurbani.

Early Education

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- Ude Singh learned Gurmukhi in Dera School from Sehaj Ram.
- He was able to read Gurbani after completing the course of Panj Granthi, 22 Varaa, Bhagta Bani and Das Granthi.
- Sant Hari Singh Jeonwala gave Santhia (learning the correct pronunciation and punctuations of Gurbani) to Ude Singh and he became an Akhand Pathi.
- Ude Singh was able to read and write in Gurmukhi, Hindi, Persian, Urdu and Sanskrit.

Blessings from Sant Attar Singh Ji Mastuana

- Once Sant Attar Singh Ji came to Chathewala to preach and Punjab Singh took along Ude Singh to meet Sant Ji.
- Sant Ji : How much have you educated your son? before Punjab Singh could answer;
- Ude Singh : I have completed my Senthia and I am an Akhand Pathi now.
- Sant Ji : (while looking at Ude Singh) You have spoken so confidently just like a scholar.
- Sant Ji then told Punjab Singh to make sure Ude Singh gets proper education as he is very intelligent.

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Ayurvedic

- Sant Hari Singh Jeonwalla and Punjab Singh inherited the knowledge of Ayurvedic in preparing medicines with available Indian herbs.
- Ude Singh acquired the knowledge through assisting his father and Sant Hari Singh ji.

Note: On Sant Ji's later days in Malaya, he used practice this knowledge to help sanggat in maintaining good health

Passing of Punjab Singh

- In 1920, Punjab Singh became sick and when Kishen Kaur (Ude Singh' s sister) went over to inform Sant Hari Singh ji to seek for treatment but Sant Hari Singh said, 'Your father will only suffer for another 3 days and then he shall abandon his body made of 5 principal elements'.
- Knowing the inevitable death, Punjab Singh then asked everyone to recite Gurmantar, Waheguru.
- Ude Singh was asked to recite Sri Sukhmani Sahib and to continue the recitation even if he passes away in between the time of recitation.
- Upon the passing of his father, Ude Singh did Sehaj Path and Sant Hari Singh completed the Bhog ceremony

The 1st Divine Knowledge

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- One day while having discussion with Sant Hari Singh Ji,
- Ude Singh : Sant Ji, how did you know in advance that my father had only three day remaining of his life?
- Sant Hari Singh Ji : Son, this is ability that we are blessed by Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji when we obey His orders and do as He told us to do. Then we shall be blessed. Guru Sahib Ji's blessings come along with the ability to see the unseen.
- Use Singh: How can I obtain the blessings of Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji?
- Sant Ji : First step towards Guru Sahib is to beg for Khanda-Da Amrit from 5 Pyare.

The Blessing of Amrit-
The Birth of Sohan Singh

- It was in 1921, Sant Hari Singh Ji organized Amrit Sanchar at Jeon Singh Wala.
- Ude Singh was 19 years old and he came forward to offer his head in return for Amrit.
- This was the day Ude Singh was given a new name by the 5 pyare, Sohan Singh.
- Later, with this blessing Ude Singh was well known as Sant Sohan Singh Ji Malacca.

Kaveshri

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- Sant Sohan Singh Ji's started his spiritual journey by learning to compose and sing poetry praising Guru Sahib and events from Sikh History.
- Sant Hari Singh ji introduced them to Begha Singh who agreed to tutor Sant Sohan Singh Ji.
- He join a Jatha led by Mitt Singh Maud who was the Ustaad (teacher) for Sant Sohan Singh Ji.
- Later, Ram Singh Ji from village Bhindrawale teamed up with Sant Sohan Singh made Ji their own jatha.
- Sant Ji's favorite poetry was on the lives of four (4) Sahibzade of Sri Guru Gobind Singh Ji and Mata Gujar Kaur (Mata Gujri)

Gatka- Khalsa martial art

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- Sant Sohan Singh always preached that it is compulsory for every Sikh to learn Gatka for self-defense and to discharge the duty of a Khalsa.
- It was also the need of time as Gurdwara Reformation and Agitation was at it's peak.
- Sant Ji was initially trained by Puran Singh Keka who was a retired from Army. He taught the techniques and silent point of Gatka.
- Others were Begha Singh, Genga Ram, Chater Singh, Lall Singh, Bakhtor Singh, Sooba Singh Ravthasia and Teja Singh Majhbi.
- Later Sant Ji enhanced his skills with Bhai Likhal Singh Bola who was an expert in Gatka

1926 - 1st Visit to Malaysia

- Sant Ji came to Malaysia with his niece Weriam Kaur who was the daughter of Sant Ji's sister, Kishen Kaur.
- Weriam Kaur was married to Nanta Singh of Village Sahikian Dadrian (Near Barnala) in Sangrur who was serving in Police force in Seremban.
- Sant ji took a train to Calcutta and boarded a ship to Penang with a fare of 100 rupees.
- Sant Sohan Singh Ji first came to Malaysia in 1925 – 1926 when his age was only 23 -24 years old.
- Sant Ji stayed in Gurdwara Sahib Seremban for one (1) year from (September 1926 – October 1927). He used to do Sehaj Path and Kaveshri. During this time he got to know Gyani Sham Singh Ji of High Street Gurdwara KL who introduced Sant ji to other Gursikhs.

1927 –Gurdwara Sahib Melaka

- Sant Ji attended a program in Gurdwara sahib Melaka with Gyani Sham Singh Ji do sing Kaveshri.
- Bhai Bhagat Singh (Bhag Singh) Brahampura who was a Granthi in Melaka Gurdwara recommended Sant Ji to be employed as a Granthi to SM Chanan Singh who was the president of GS Melaka & Sikh Police Gurdwara.
- Sant Ji said to Sham Singh that he has never been a Granthi nor trained as one before. Sham Singh said, ‘ Granthi work is easy, its reading Gurbani and Ardaas’.
- It was 24th October 1927, Sant Ji started his duty as the Granthi Sahib in Gurdwara Sahib Melaka.
- However, Sant Ji was not comfortable to be a Granthi without qualifying for the position academically.

Taksali Education in Malaysia

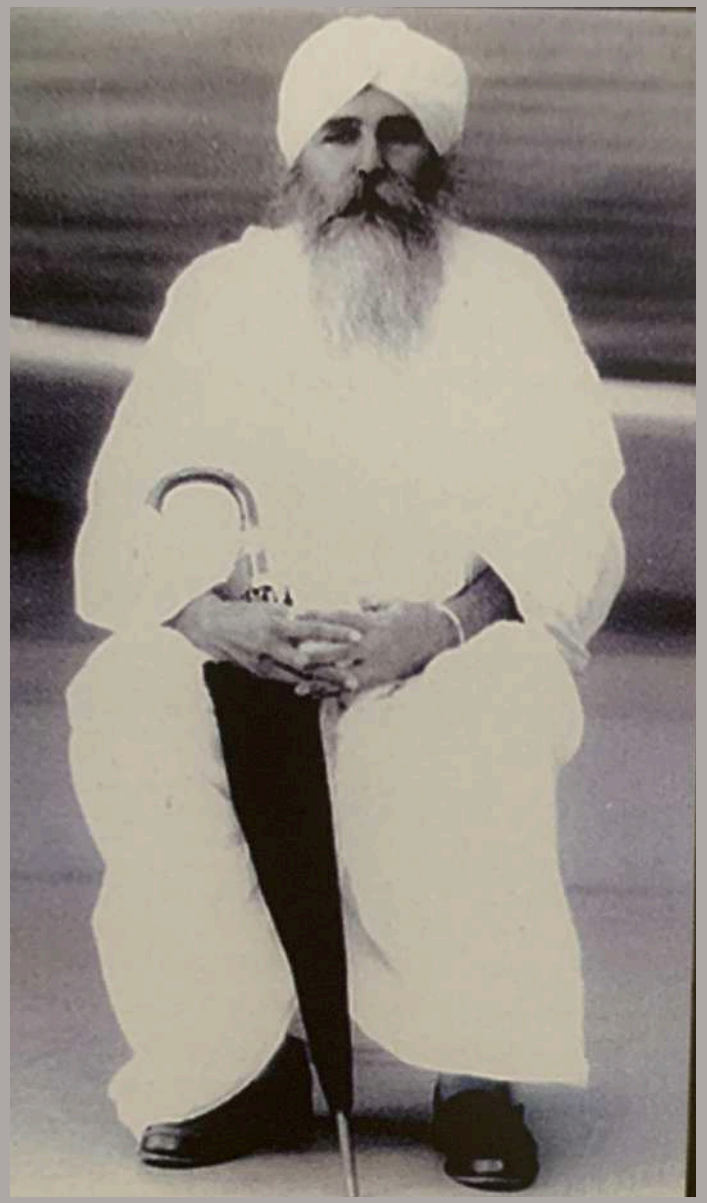
- Sant Sohan Singh Ji learned from Gyani Chanan Singh who was educated with the Taksali Samparda.
- Bhav Samrit, Sarkutavli, Verag Shetak, Vichar mala, Vichar sagar, Virti Perbakar and Mokhs Panth were learnt.
- Sant ji also used to consult Gyani Gurbaksh Singh Tapah who was the Scholar of Sanskrit and the meanings of Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji based on Taksal Samparda

1927 to 1933 – Preaching around Malaya

- Sant Ji attended various function and sing poetry in the praise of Guru Sahib.
- He used to narrate the Sakhi (History) of Sikh Gurus
- Sikh virtues was discussed in his lectures
- Sant Ji used read Gurbani fluently which mesmerizes the sanggat

1932 – 1934 – In Punjab

- In 1932, Sant Ji applied for open dated leave from the management of GS Melaka to visit his family and to enhance his qualification to continue serving as a Granthi.
- Sant Ji left to Punjab in early November 1932.
- Upon arrival he met his mentor Sant Hari Singh Ji Jeon Singh Wala and did Katha on the Shaheedi of four (4) Sahibzade in Chathewala.
- A marriage proposal from Jeon Singh of Sehney for his youngest daughter Dyal Kaur came for Sant Ji, to which Sant Ji politely decline by saying, 'I don't want to get married as I am here to further enhance my Gurmat knowledge'.



1931 – Abandoning Haumai from Speech

- Sant Ji was performing duties as the Granthi (Priest) at Gurdwara Sahib Melaka.
- He had strict instruction from the Parbandhak Committee to shut of the Electricity Main Switch (for power conservation) for the complex including the tenanted rooms.
- One day, as usual Sant ji switched off the switch and one of the tenant came shouting in anger, ‘Bhai ji, I am going to pull your beard as you switch off the supply in the midst of me having my dinner” He started using vulgar word to Sant Ji.
- Sant Ji calmly said, ’you may beat me up on any part of my body but do not ouch my beard as this belongs to my beloved Sri Guru Gobind Singh Ji, if you do then I will do all I can to stop you.’
- The guy keep harping on the issue ended up a heated argument.
- That night Sant Ji went to Guru Ji’s room and cried and apologise for using the word ‘Mai’ (Me) and he took a vow that I will never use this word ever in my life.
- The 41 years of his lifetime he never used the word MAI again and he always use WE, US (Apaa, Assi).

Guru Ki Kansi – Damdama Sahib

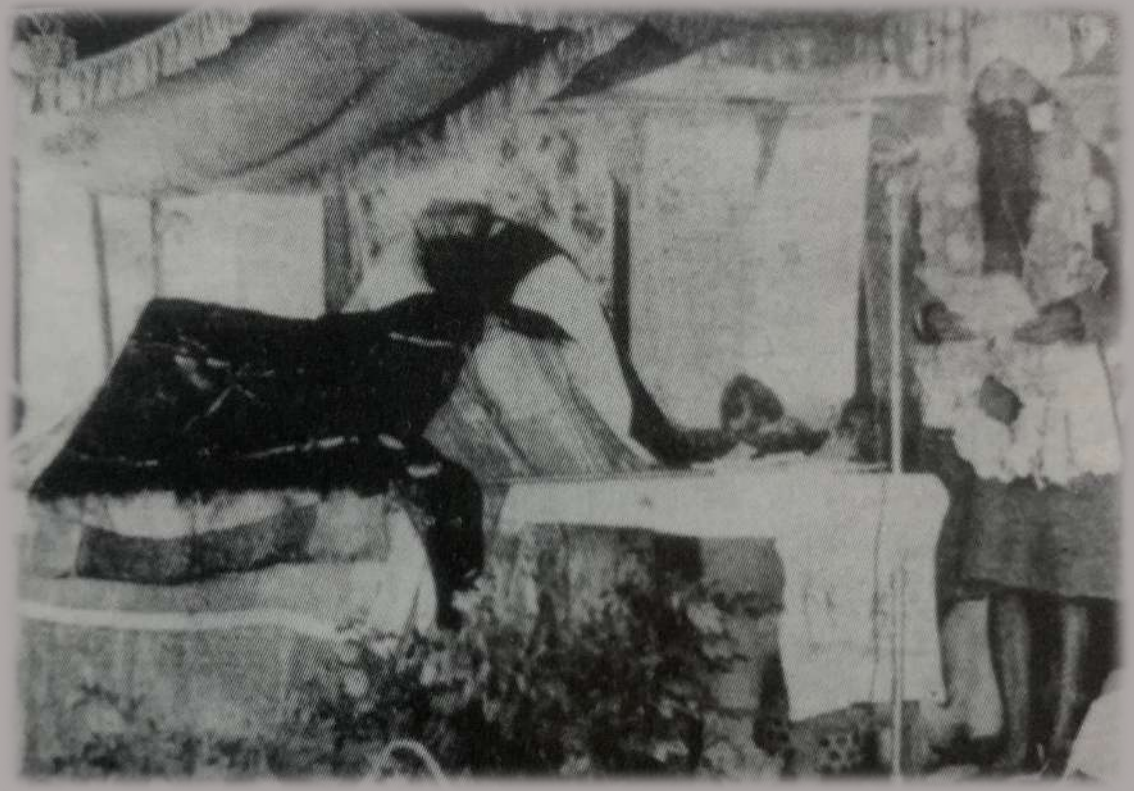
- Sant Ji enrolled himself in the Gyani Course in mid-January 1933 at Gurmat Updeshek Vidyala, Guru Ki Kansi Damdama Sahib.
- Sanskrit was taught by Pandit Kartar Singh Dakha
- He along with 42 other students which included Sant Niranjan Singh Ji Patiala (Shiromani Kathakar), Gyani Gurdit Singh Ghali Johor Bahru (the father of Gyani Balbir Singh Ji Kuala Lumpur) and Gyani Ude Singh Petang, Pontian Johor.
- The course was for the tenure of 1 year.
- Sant Sohan Singh Ji excelled as top scorer among the 34 others who passed as he had initial education in Malaysia from Gyani Chanan Singh and Gurbaksh Singh.
- Thus he completed the Gyani Course equivalent to BA (H) qualification.

Maha Gyani Course

- In August 1933, Sant Ji's mother Prem Kaur passes away.
- Sant Ji continued to pursue further Gurmat Education by enrolling into Maha Gyani Course (MA (H) qualification) at Gurmat Updeshek Vidyala, Guru Ki Kansi Damdama Sahib.
- Sant ji was examined by Bhai Kahn Singh Nabha and Pandit Kartar Singh Dakha.
- Sant ji excelled in his results and in addition he was conferred the title of Kavi Kavya Maha Gyani in December 1933.

Mastering Sanskrit

- Sant Ji requested Sant Hari Singh Ji to teach him Sanskrit in order for him to further his knowledge by reading the old manuscripts and have better understanding of Gurbani.
- Sant Hari Singh arranged Pandit Gheniya Ram Shastri of Kot Shameer to come over from Kansi to Jeon Singh Wala.
- Among the scriptures studied were Chanakya Nitti Granth, Sanskrit Viakaran, 6 Shastras, 27 Simritis, Bhagvat, Ramayan and other Kav Granth.



Gurmat Education in Malaya

- During these years, the Gurmat education taught in Malaya was based on the syllabus taught in Taksal.
- A student who wanted to learn Gurbani were required to complete the pre-requisites comprising of Panj Granthi (containing selected Bani from Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji), Bai (22) Varaa (22 Ballads in Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji), Bhagta Bani (The bani of 15 Bhagats in Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji) and Das Granth (The selected Bani from Sri Dasam Granth Sahib Ji).
- The tutor were Bhai Bhagat Singh and Bhai Dyal Singh who were trained in Taksal.

June 1934 – Back to Malaya

- In the late May 1934, Sant Ji left Punjab to Malaya via Calcutta.
- Sant Ji arrived in Penang in early June 1934 and resumed his duties as the Granthi in GS Melaka on 10th June 1934.
- During this time Sant Ji realized that teaching Gurbani must be complimented by the teaching of history (Gurbilas Patsahi 6 & 10, Sri Nanak Perkash, Gurpertap Suraj Granth, Mehima Perkash, etc.), Vedant Granth and other scriptures as well for wide understanding. Thus Khalsa Library was established in 1935 in GS Malacca.

Katha of Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji

- 26th June 1935, on the Shaheedi Dihara of Sri Guru Arjan Dev Ji the Larivaar (continuous) Katha of the complete Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji was commenced
- The Katha was done by one person sitting on right hand side reciting Gurbani line-by line and Sant Ji explaining the meaning in simple Punjabi language to facilitate the understanding of the sanggat without much effort on daily basis at GS Malacca. The Katha inspired many Gursikhs.
- The Katha was completed after 24 months on 24th June 1937 and the Bhog was on the exact day of Sri Guru Arjan Dev Ji's Shaheedi Dihara.

Katha of Gur Pertap Suraj Granth

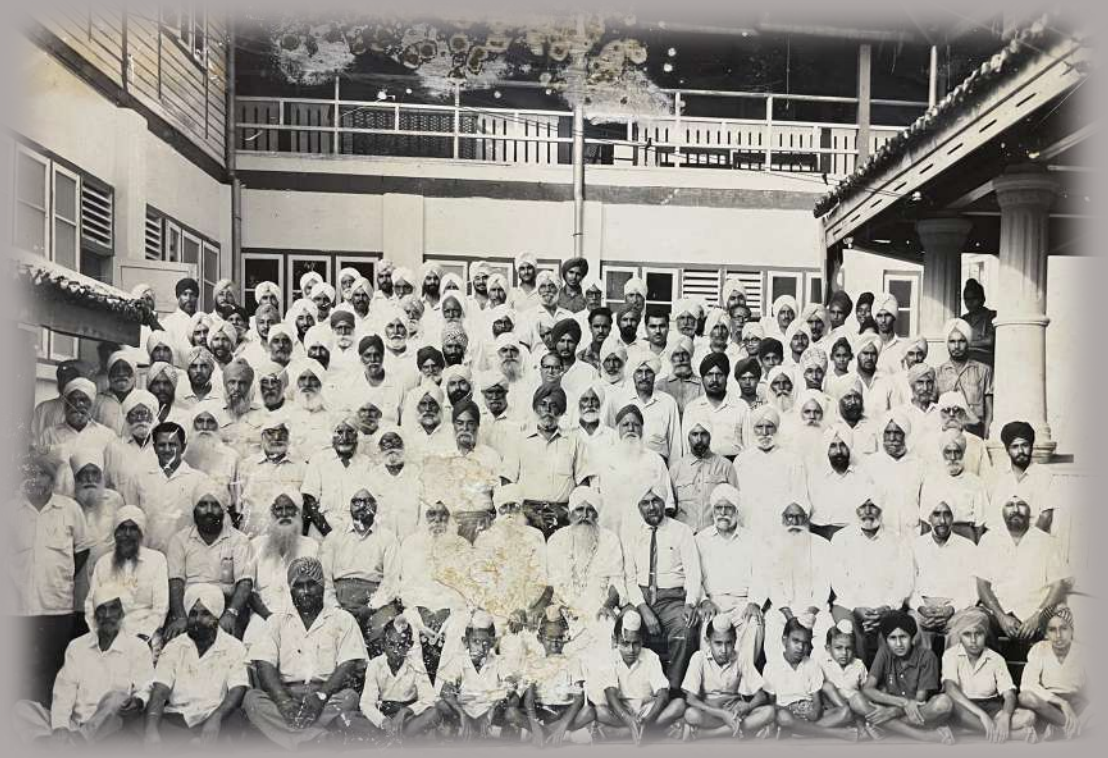
- On the day, 24th June 1937 when the Ardaas for the completion of Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji's Katha was done Sant Ji at the behest of the sanggat did an Ardaas to commence the Katha of Sri Nanak Perkash & Gur Pertap Suraj Granth written by Churamani Kavi Bhai Santokh Singh Ji in 1843 CE.
- Sri Nanak Perkash Granth & Gur Pertap Suraj Granth Katha is done in all the 5 Takhat Sahibs and all the historical Gurdwaras in India
- The Ithaas (historical accounts of all 10 Sikh Guru and Sikhs) katha was done daily by Sant Ji by narrating the original script read by a Pathi Singh sitting on right handside
- Sant Ji, through his dedication managed to complete this voluminous katha in December 1941 prior to Japanese occupation. Which computes to be 4.5 years.

1947 to 1952– Punjab Visit

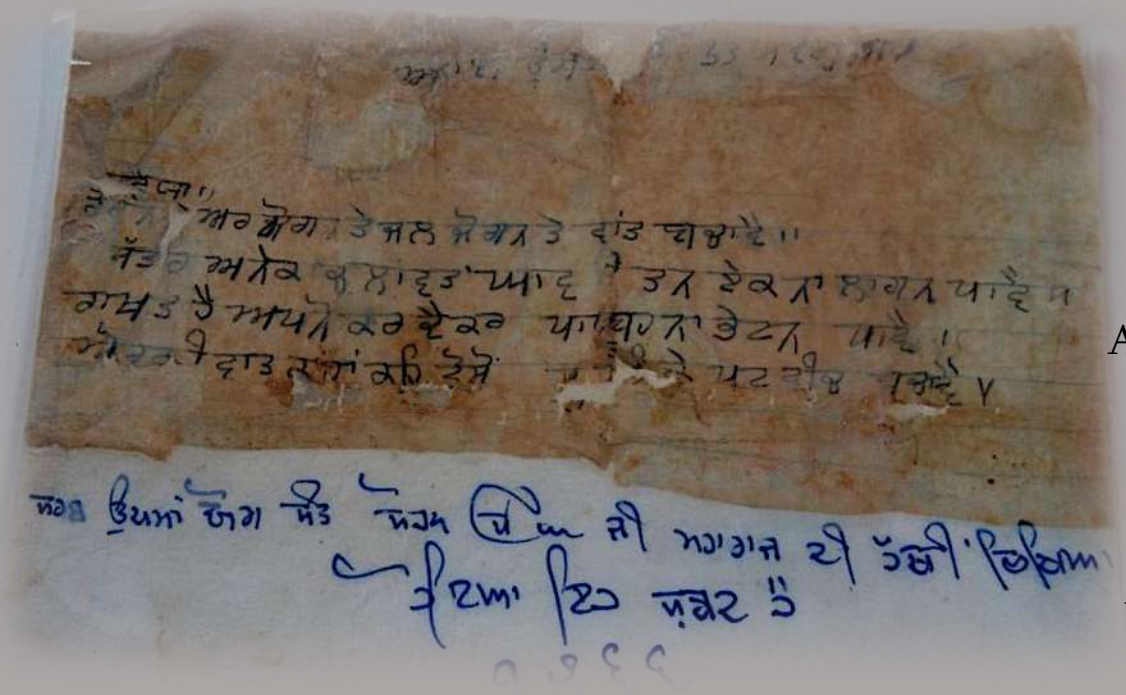
- In the early 1947 Sant Ji went back to Punjab to pursue spiritual studies.
- Sant Ji handed over the duties of GS Malacca Granthi Sahib to Bhai Bishen Singh Thalaekae on 30th April 1947.
- Sant ji was given Sirapao & farewell by organizing Jodhmela by sanggat in Malacca, Seremban, Segamat, Kuala Pilah, Muar and Batu Pahat.
- Sant Ji reached Madras on 'Rajula' on 1st July 1947 and rested at Swami Mudliar temple before proceeding to Punjab.
- During this visit, Sant ji travelled around India during and after the partition of India.
- Sant Ji used to help and preach Sikhi in the villages and teach in Guru Ki Kansi.

1952 to 1956 in Malaya

- Sanji arrived in Penang on 7th November 1952, a large crowd of Sikh Sanggat was waiting to welcome Sant Ji at the port.
- Sant Ji travelled around Malaya and Singapore to preach the teachings of our Guru sahib. He managed to deliver the message of the Guru in a very simple yet of deep thought to the sanggat.
- Apart from preaching, Sanggat usually came to Sant Ji with their problem and challenges to which Sant Ji advises to read Gurbani, do Ardaas and have undoubted faith on Guru Sahib.
- Extensive travelling caused Sant Ji health to deteriorate but Sant Ji did not say NO to Sanggat's request.



Handwritten Shabad of Sant Sohan Singh Ji Melaka



ਰੋਗਨ ਤੇ ਅਰ ਸੋਗਨ ਤੇ ; ਜਲ ਜੋਗਨ ਤੇ ਬਹੁਭਾਂਤ ਬਚਾਵੈ ॥

He (Almighty) who saves variously and protects in many ways from all physical illness (Rogan), mental illness (Sogan) and lightning strike (Jal Jogan);

ਸਤ੍ਰ ਅਨੇਕ ਚਲਾਵਤ ਘਾਵ ; ਤਊ ਤਨ ਏਕ ਨ ਲਾਗਨ ਪਾਵੈ ॥

Although an enemy uses various methods but with the grace of Almighty none can harm. 2nd Meaning: Although an enemy attacks with various weapons none will touch the body with Almighty's grace.

ਰਾਖਤ ਹੈ ਅਪਨੋ ਕਰ ਦੈ ਕਰ ; ਪਾਪ ਸਬੂਹ ਨ ਭੇਟਨ ਪਾਵੈ ॥

Almighty protects by lending His own hand thus no sins can ever touch His devotee

ਔਰ ਕੀ ਬਾਤ ਕਹਾ ਕਹ ਤੋਸੌਂ ; ਸੁ ਪੇਟਹੀ ਕੇ ਪਟ ਬੀਚ ਬਚਾਵੈ ॥੬॥੨੪੮॥

What more can I (Guru Gobind Singh Ji) say to you? Almighty protects us even in the mother's womb.

(Sri Dasam Granth Sahib Ji- Ang 34-35)

Sant Ji used to advise the sanggat to read the above shabad during the challenging times among them were Paramjit Kaur Grewal w/o Sarban Singh Kuala Lipis, Niranjan Singh Ipoh (1964) and Babu Ranjit Singh Rawang.

1952 -Saving Aircraft & 3rd Visit to Punjab

- Sant Ji decided to go back to his village in Punjab to take rest while attending to the family matters.
- A farewell Jodhmela was held at Tatt Khalsa Diwan Selangor Kuala Lumpur on 12 June 1956, Melaka on 29th June 1956, Johor on 6th July 1956 and Singapore on 15th July 1956.
- Finally Sant Ji left Singapore to New Delhi on BOAC Aircraft on 15th July 1956. The Aircraft engine failed while crossing the Bay of Bengal. The pilot and crew requested Sant Ji, Sant Ji did an Ardaas and went into the state of Bhagti. The plane landed in Calcutta and to the surprise of the engineers the engines were ice-cool and there was no way the plane could have landed. This news was published in Pardesi Khalsa Sewak on 9th September 1956.
- Sant Ji came back to Malaya on 25th June 1957.
- Sant Ji revisited Punjab for the 4th time from 7th October 1957 to 23rd September 1958.

Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji Academy
Centre of Divine Knowledge

Sant Sohan Singh Ji

- Sant Ji used to travel around the clock to attend Sanggat's request.
- Sant Ji will always be regarded highly by the sanggat for His contributions in preaching Sikhi
- Sant Ji served the Sanggat selflessly as he would accept the sanggat's request and attend their events under any circumstances.

On 12th January 1964 at Gurdwara Sahib Main Duab, Pudu Kuala Lumpur, Sant Sohan Singh Ji conducted marriage of Sardar Gurbachan Singh Dhanoa and Pal Kaur Gill on the request of Sardar Ranjit Singh Gill

Foundation Stone & Inauguration of following Gurdwara Sahib

- Main Duab, KL
- Ashby Road, Ipoh
- Kampung Pandan, KL
- Seremban, NS
- Petaling Jaya, Selangor
- Tanjung Rambutan, Perak
- Jinjang South, KL
- Changkat Batu Gajah, Perak

General Hospital Ipoh

- Sant Ji was first admitted in General Hospital Ipoh on 21st November 1971 due to his health conditions. This was the fourth time eventually become the last.
- Dr Paul was on duty & was shocked to see Sant Ji sitting on his bed who was frail that he needed assistance to even sit.
- Sant Ji's room was never locked, a person sneaked in at night and saw a lion. When asked, Sant Ji said, ' it is not good to test god's person'.
- People used to see light illuminating from Sant Ji's room when no lights were turned on

- It was the beginning of 24th May 1972, Sant Ji's health reflected great improvements his sugar level, heart beat and blood pressure was normal. Even his wound on his right foot had healed.
- The doctors were contemplating to discharge Sant Ji in a week time but they did not know that Sant Ji is going to discharge himself.
- While Sant Ji was having kheecheri (rice porridge with moong dhal) in the afternoon. Sant Ji started coughing but this time he showed signs of choking. Sant ji's face became reddish in colour and his body temperature rised all in a sudden.
- Sant Ji said a few words but unfortunately was not understood.
- Bhai Gurdial Singh Sagoo held Sant Ji's hand, which Sant JI hold tight. Sant Ji looked at him and smiled , Gurdial Singh asked 'Babaji, are you leaving us now', Sant Ji nodded and smiled

Antim Ardaas

- Sant Ji left his body shortly after on Wednesday, 24th may 1972 at 1.45pm at General Hospital Ipoh
- The final Ardaas was performed by Giani Gurdit Singh Ghali

Antim Sanskar

- The cremation (Saskar) was perfomed on Thursday, 25th May 1972 at 2.0pm at Cremation Ground at Melaka
- Bhog on on the tenth day was concluded at GS Malacca on 4th June 1972 ,

A Tribute to Sant Sohan Singh Ji

Sant Sohan Singh Ji, a saint whose beginning were humble but he exalted as a true Gurmukh who served the sanggat as the very form of Guru Himself.

His progress in spiritual life was seen by thousands but very less saw Him as Saint who sacrificed His entire life preaching Gurmat. Many may have their wishes fulfilled through His humble Ardaas before Guru Sahib but least were able to see through His eyes Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji as the eternal living Guru